

August 20, 2023

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The Eleventh Sunday after Trinity

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

P.O. Box 98, Okabena, MN 56161

A member congregation of the
Church of the Lutheran Confession

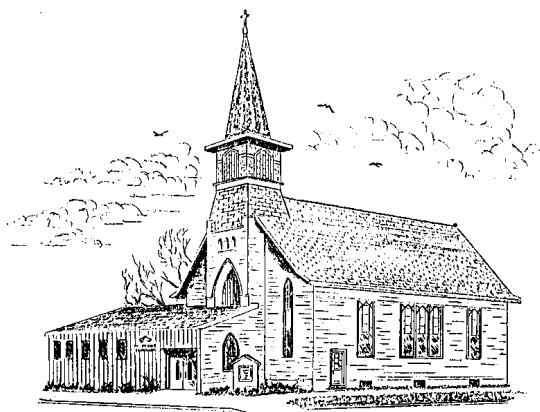
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www.okabenalutheran.org



WELCOME To all of you who are visiting our service this morning, we extend a most cordial welcome in Jesus' name. It is our hope that you will feel at home in our midst and will be blessed by our message of Christ crucified and risen for the sins of the world.

If you are looking for a church home or would like to know more about our beliefs and practices, please see the pastor. He will be glad to visit with you at your convenience. Be sure to join us again.

Prelude Mrs. Kathy Lueck

Hymn 5 *Lord, Open Thou My Heart to Hear*

Liturgy Page 12ff. in the Worship Supplement

Old Testament Lesson Isaiah 56:1, 6-8 Thus says the Lord:

“Keep justice, and do righteousness,
For My salvation is about to come,
And My righteousness to be revealed.
“Also the sons of the foreigner
Who join themselves to the Lord, to serve Him,
And to love the name of the Lord, to be His servants—
Everyone who keeps from defiling the Sabbath,
And holds fast My covenant—
Even them I will bring to My holy mountain,
And make them joyful in My house of prayer.
Their burnt offerings and their sacrifices
Will be accepted on My altar;
For My house shall be called a house of prayer for all nations.”
The Lord God, who gathers the outcasts of Israel, says,
“Yet I will gather to him
Others besides those who are gathered to him.”

Epistle Lesson Romans 11:1-2a., 13-15, 28-32 I say then, has God cast away His people? Certainly not! For I also am an Israelite, of the seed of Abraham, of the tribe of Benjamin. God has not cast away His people whom He foreknew.

For I speak to you Gentiles; inasmuch as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry, if by any means I may provoke to jealousy those who are my flesh and save some of them. For if their being cast away is the reconciling of the world, what will their acceptance be but life from the dead?

Concerning the gospel they are enemies for your sake, but concerning the election they are beloved for the sake of the fathers. For the gifts and the calling of God are irrevocable. For as you were once disobedient to God, yet have now obtained mercy through their disobedience, even so these also have now been disobedient, that through the mercy shown you they also may obtain mercy. For God has committed them all to disobedience, that He might have mercy on all.

Hymn 245 *God Love the World So That He Gave*

Sermon Matthew 15:21-28 Then Jesus went out from there and departed to the region of Tyre and Sidon. And behold, a woman of Canaan came from that region and cried out to Him, saying, “Have mercy on me, O Lord, Son of David! My daughter is severely demon-possessed.” But He answered her not a word.

And His disciples came and urged Him, saying, “Send her away, for she cries out after us.” But He answered and said, “I was not sent except to the lost sheep of the house of Israel.”

Then she came and worshiped Him, saying, “Lord, help me!” But He answered and said, “It is not good to take the children’s bread and throw it to the little dogs.” And she said, “Yes, Lord, yet even the little dogs eat the crumbs which fall from their masters’ table.”

Then Jesus answered and said to her, “O woman, great is your faith! Let it be to you as you desire.” And her daughter was healed from that very hour.

Vastly Different People... One, and Only One, Savior

Offertory

Offering of Thankful Hearts

Hymn *Sing Praise to the God of Israel*

Prayer + The Lord’s Prayer

The Benediction

Hymn 464 *Blest be the Tie That Binds*

CDS All of you are invited to attend the Opening Service for our Christian Day School on Tuesday morning at 8. This marks the 28th anniversary of the school. What a blessing that the Lord has provided for and blessed our school these many years. May He daily prosper the Word that is sown upon the hearts of our students.

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS The Board of Education is looking for volunteers to teach Sunday School this year. The Sunday School season does not begin until the Sunday after Labor Day. With enough volunteers, we could set up a rotation so that the same teachers wouldn't need to teach every Sunday.

FREE ITEMS There are two tables of items in the basement that are free for the taking. One table is in the kitchen and contains items from the utility closet. The other is in the middle room. There is also an ample supply of paper. Please help yourself. If you need assistance hauling it to your car, please see the pastor.

CLC NEWS Pastor Aaron Ude, Rapid City, SD has the call to Marquette, MI.

EXCHANGE STUDENT In the past, some of our members hosted foreign exchange students who attended HLO High School. If this is something that interests you, please see Ruth Eigenberg for more information.

Man Up! Weekend - The 2023 ManUp! Men's Weekend will be held September 21-24, 2023, at beautiful Wyalusing State Park near Prairie du Chien, WI The weekend will offer strength and encouragement for men 18 and older for their personal faith, family, and fellowship at church. The weekend will include Bible study, fellowship, leadership training, team building, relationship building, worship, and many outdoor bonding activities. Register and send in your payment before August 31st for the discounted rate of \$75. Registration increases to \$150 after September 1st. The registration includes lodging and meals. You can register by going to the Man Up! website here: www.manup.clclutheran.org and clicking on the Registration Form. Sign up today!

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USHERS 08/20 Phil S., Nathan V., Anthony F., Daniel R.
08/27 Trevor B., Tim Z., Joshua E., Christian K., David R.
09/03 Kendall B., Kraig B., Larry B. Jonathen L.

CLEANING (Wk. 4) The Albrechts
The Eigenbergs, R. Gustaf